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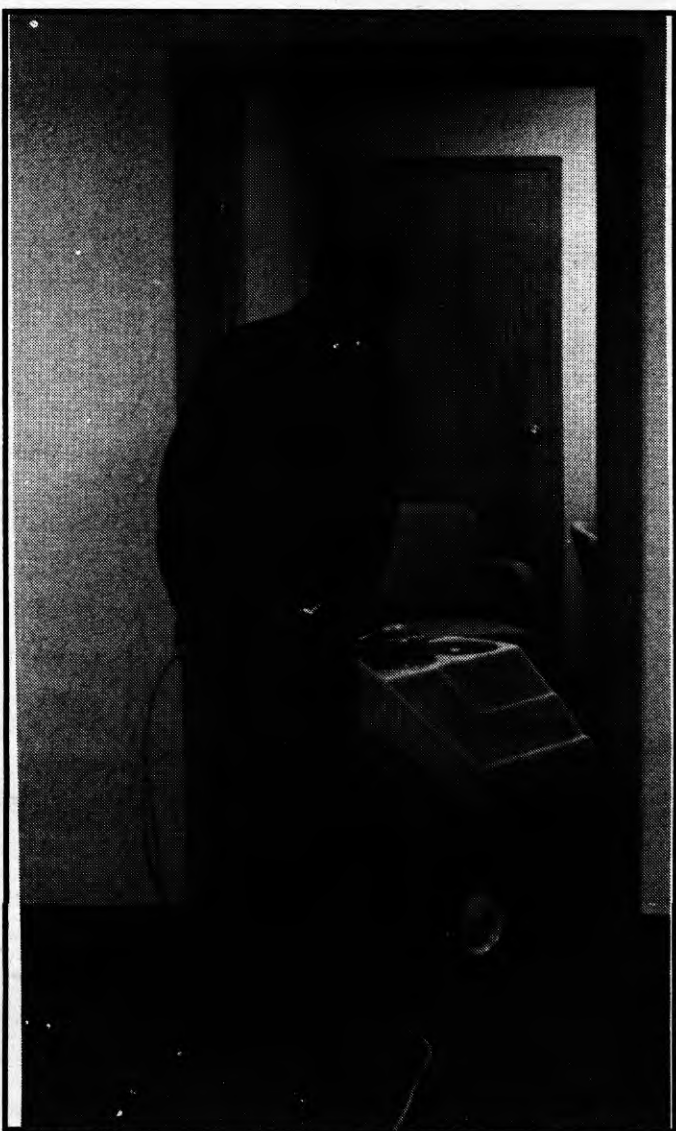
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Marshall University

the Parthenon

Thinkin' thrifty? One shopper compares and saves - page 8!



jim sands

A worker cleans up the mess in the C.O.L.A. office.

Burst pipe damages two Old Main offices

by LORIE E. JACKSON
reporter

Water flowing from a burst pipe ripped out ceiling tiles and damaged books and furniture in the College of Liberal Arts front office on the first floor of Old Main Wednesday morning.

The office, after having just been renovated, had to be stripped of all its contents so Physical Plant workers could clean up the mess.

Joan T. Mead, dean of C.O.L.A., said "The work crews are wonderful to work with. They arrived immediately and started removing furniture and cleaning the carpet. The electrician made sure the lights and all electrical outlets could be used. The workers were all very knowledgeable and capable, and we are very appreciative."

The office was scheduled to be the site of a book signing and reception later that day, but many of the

books were damaged and the reception had to be moved to the conference room.

"We don't know how much damage was caused to the books but we plan to restore and replace them all," Mead said.

Mead also said books written by C.O.L.A. faculty members were damaged, but library officials are looking at the books to determine if they can be restored.

"We don't know how much damage the water caused to furniture. We may be able to keep the wood desk, but it looks like we may have lost our computer and printer, we'll have to wait and see how everything turns out," Mead said.

The new printing supply room, located below the COLA office, has some damage too.

"Since we were in the process of moving our

See PIPE page 6

No show SGA senators will find names in print

by DAN LONDEREE
reporter

Student Senate members absent from Student Government Association meetings will now find their names in print.

Tuesday the Student Senate passed a resolution allowing the Student Government Association to publish an advertisement in the Parthenon listing the senators present and absent.

Sen. Greg Howes, College of Science, said the ads will cost \$52 each.

The resolution will be in effect through the term ending in March.

The resolution narrowly passed and was opposed by senators who expressed concerns about negative

reactions from the public, particularly the campus newspaper.

Sen. Season Chiari, College of Liberal Arts, said the resolution is a bad idea. "They (the Parthenon) would probably print another nice little slam in an editorial if we print this," Chiari said.

Graduate School Sen. David Wickham disagreed and said the resolution would let students know how they were being represented.

He said it didn't matter what the Parthenon said.

"They're going to slam us any way we go," Wickham said. "The Parthenon be damned."

In other business, Student Body President Mark Davis formed an ad-hoc committee to oversee the spring elections.

He said he was pleased with the voting turnout for last semester's elections and hopes to have another successful election this semester.

After the meeting, Davis said, "Last semester we doubled the voting turnout for the previous semester's elections. This semester we hope to give away some stipends (monetary contributions), and maybe a date book produced by Stadium Bookstore."

Because last semester's election provoked criticism over voting irregularities, training sessions for poll workers need to be mandatory, Sen. Wickham said.

"Only four or five polling

See SGA, page 6

Say it with flowers



jim sands

A desk worker at Holderby Hall lines Tuesday's Valentine deliveries along a countertop.

INSide

OUTside

Yozminder

on the decline in residence halls, story on page 5



Marshall's number two man

leaving to help the governor, story on page 6



TODAY, cloudy, with a high of 32.

this & that

Wife gives husband more than her love

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Noreen McGuire has already given her husband her heart. So for Valentine's Day, she's giving him one of her kidneys.

"We thought that would be a nice gift," she joked.

Surgery to transplant one of Mrs. McGuire's kidneys to her husband, Michael, began this Wednesday at Stanford University Medical Center.

"It's a humbling experience," McGuire said on the eve of the operation, resting after what he hoped would be his last dialysis



session. "It's a big responsibility to donate, and a big responsibility to accept a gift like that."

Most of the thousands of kidneys that are transplanted each year come from donors who have just died. Blood relatives are the first live donors doctors seek.

McGuire, a diabetic, rejected his sister's offer to donate, fearing that she, too, might develop diabetes and eventually suffer from kidney failure, one of the disease's complications.

But Mrs. McGuire, 45, turned out to be a good match.

"I love him, and he'd do it for me, if the shoe was on the other foot," she said.

Letterman realizes dream, becomes Indy-car partner

NEW YORK (AP) — David Letterman, who has been known to put the pedal to the metal, now has a license to speed legally — sort of.

Letterman on Tuesday confirmed he has become a minor partner in Bobby Rahal's Indy-car racing team.

"It's literally a dream come true for me to become this much a part of a sport that has meant so much to me," said Letterman, who grew up in Indianapolis, home of the Indy 500.

"They've promised me my own air wrench," he said.

Dead rock musician's name to be marketed by widow

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — His guitar has been silenced, but Jerry Garcia's name will play on — in neckties, drawings, writings and music recordings.

Deborah Koons Garcia, the musician's widow and his lawyer announced Monday that they had hired a Beverly Hills-based agency to market Garcia-related products.

Life of the average man studied

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — You're a guy. You spend \$46 a month at the local convenience store, have sex seven times a month [10 minutes at a time] and sleep 7 1/2 hours a night. Congratulations. You, my friend, are average. Citing "reports, surveys

and reams of marketing data," the March issue of Men's Health magazine highlights, in excruciating detail, the life of the average American guy.

—He is 5 feet, 9 inches tall and weighs 172 pounds;

—Has 70 to 80 pounds of muscle;

—Can run a mile in 12 min-

utes, but that's for true couch potatoes. The active average guy can do it in 7 1/2 minutes;

—Can do 33 1/2 situps in a minute;

—Loses his virginity at 17 and is married by 26;

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off campus

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Pentagon makes cuts

Washington, D.C. (AP)— The Pentagon will eliminate nearly 16,000 positions in reserve units coast to coast. The cuts are the third in a series of five major cutbacks designed to adjust to new defense requirements.

Boy's parents indicted for his murder

LITTLE AXE, Okla. (AP)— There was little dignity in Shane Alan Coffman's short life. There was even less in his death.

The 8-year-old boy died in August from abuse, authorities say, and his body was shoved inside a broken freezer packed with red mud, a pink-handled spade and a headless doll. His body was found Friday by a man who owned the trailer where the boy's family had lived.

Shane's mother, Bertha Jean

Coffman, and her boyfriend, Donald Lee Gilson, were arraigned Tuesday on charges of first-degree murder and concealing the death. Both were denied bond and placed in the county jail to await a preliminary hearing.

All but one of Shane's five siblings, ages 7 to 12, have been placed in protective custody, a spokesperson of the Department of Human Services said Tuesday.

Two have been hospitalized for malnourishment; the 12-

year-old boy was staying with a grandparent.

The children told authorities they were starved as punishment and one of them said they had to resort to stealing dog food to eat, said Cleveland County District Attorney Tim Kuykendall.

"There was severe malnourishment, open sores. One of the brother's feet was deformed from lack of nourishment," he said.

Bob Perrine, Coffman's court-appointed lawyer, said

even though the two have admitted hiding the boy's body, they haven't admitted to Shane's death.

"It's a horrible thing to have happen to any child, but we shouldn't condemn them as of yet," Perrine said.

Tim Goff found Shane's decomposed body in a large freezer in the yard behind the abandoned trailer in this rural community 35 miles south of Oklahoma City. Coffman, 39, and Gilson, 36, had lived there until last summer.

Assistant prosecutor Rick Sitzman said investigators believe Shane's death occurred Aug. 15 and was caused by "excessive and unreasonable discipline."

The pastor of the First Baptist Church, where Shane and his siblings attended Sunday school, said he called the Department of Human Services four times to complain that the children were not being cared for properly.

Parishioners will pay for Shane's burial, he said.

Visiting Chef



Friday, February 16
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AP Associated Press

briefs

Flood victims issued checks

CHARLESTON (AP) — The Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued 1,761 checks totaling about \$4 million in disaster assistance to flood victims in West Virginia.

The agency has received 5,259 applications from individuals and businesses hit

by January floods in West Virginia, the agency said.

Three brides for three brothers

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — For the Carpenters and the Wests, love is all in the family.

One by one over a 10-year period, Sandra, Lynda and Joyce Carpenter married Jerry,

Larry and Max West.

It all started in 1966, when Sandra and Jerry met at a party. Four months later, they were married. Larry and Lynda, who met the same night, exchanged vows three years later.

The Wests and the Carpenters have 13 children and 16 grandchildren among them.

"We fill up half the church," said Larry West, 47. "People look, and they always ask, 'How did it happen?'"

It Doesn't Take A Math Major To Reduce The Coefficient of Drag to .31



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Opinion

the parthenon **4** thursday, feb. 15, 1996

our VIEW

SLAM!

Slam...slam...slam...

SGA meetings are starting to sound more and more like old Batman episodes, with Batgirl and Robin over there leading the crusade against the ruthless, diabolical, all-new Parthenon.

See related story, page one

We thought we had been pretty nice this semester, compared to semesters past. We thought we were getting along just fine. No hate mail from them, no real "slams" from us.

But it seems that's not how they feel.

They seem to think we unjustly criticize everything they do. Wrong — we criticize only the things they do wrong.

They imply we unjustly ridicule the way the student government elections are treated each semester. Wrong — we ridicule only the elections that are handled poorly and riddled with mistakes.

They consistently tell us how important student government is, how necessary it is to the welfare of the students and what a responsibility it is to be a part of the SGA. They become irate when participation is referred to as simply a "resume-builder." They don't think the students could do without a governing body, even though more than 10 percent of the student body rarely turn out to vote. They think they have a bad image, yet they do n't need to replace the missing public relations director.

They have convinced even themselves they are a powerful, necessary, vital student group that has a great influence on the lives of students, yet they cannot stand to be criticized for the mistakes that are made — the same way the administration, the governor and even the President of the United States are criticized for making mistakes.

After reading the front page article, does anyone other than us get the feeling that some of the senators are more concerned with looking good than doing good?

Perhaps they would rather "the only paper provided free on campus" just shut up and agree with everything they do, right or wrong. Or perhaps they would like us to pat them on the back, blow a little sunshine their way and tell them what a good job they are doing — even when they aren't.

Sorry, but you won't find that here.

We never knew we had any real influence on what decisions would be made. Considering the SGA makes the same mistakes over and over, we didn't even know the senators were reading the so-called "slams" we print. But now we know, and knowing is half the battle.

Since SGA seems to now be making decisions based on how the Parthenon will respond, we considered providing a list of things they could give us to shut us up. But then we realized they can't even sneak off to Florida without getting caught, so how could they hook us up?

So...for Batgirl, Robin and all the other self-proclaimed superheroes of the student body trying to free this university from the tyranny of evil doers, remember: We'll give credit when credit is due.

If it ever is.



let 13,000 readers know your view

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by fax

304.696.2519

our VIEW

Can we move off campus, please?

Marshall University has the ability to house 2100 students at a time, with each student paying \$2,060 per semester.

So, it is no wonder students are forced to live on campus for their first two years.

But it is my understanding that this is an institution for students, and with out us, there would be no Marshall University, so why are we forced to live somewhere where we are uncomfortable?

I believe that freshmen should have to live in the dorms.

But most sophomores are between the ages of 19 and 20, and do not need to be told that they can not have guests past 11 p.m. There are other factors that make dorm life uncomfortable such as be-

ing kept awake until 3 a.m. because of other people's noise, water that contains more chlorine than a swimming pool, fire alarms in the middle of the night and the biggest complaint: food.

Winston Baker, Resident Service Director, admitted last November that, "Food service was also a major gripe in 1950."

So the food is bad, has been bad for at least 46 years, and probably won't change. Yet, for four semesters, students must pay for it.

My final question is — why is it that fraternity and sorority members can move off campus when they are sophomores?

I have nothing against the Greek community, but this is discrimination.

Students must wake up and realize that they should not be forced to live and pay for something that they are not happy with.

Many other universities don't have these requirements, so why does ours?

Sarah Warrick
Bunker Hill, sophomore

THURSDAY
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the Parthenon

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The Parthenon, Marshall University's newspaper, is published by students Tuesday through Friday. The editor solely is responsible for news and editorial content.

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the Parthenon... you've
got to read it to hate it

Send us mail

Vandalism declining

Residence services cites drop

by JEFFREY HUNT
reporter

Although there have been 100 incidents of vandalism reported to residence services this academic school year, the director of residence services said this is a dramatic decrease.

A maintenance department report shows that it cost an average of \$524.80 a month to repair damages done by vandals in the dormitories, Winston A. Baker, director of residence services, said.

The report includes damages done to all dormitories including University Heights the off-campus buildings for married students, he said.

"Only one incident has occurred all year at University Heights," Baker said. "Most of the incidents take place on campus."

In September it cost \$209.65 to repair damages to the dormitories, Baker said. The greatest number of incidents occurred in October. Forty-eight incidents were reported costing more than \$1,400 to repair, compared to just 11 incidents

reported in September, he said.

"I have no idea why there was such a jump in October," Baker said. "But after October, the vandalism decreased drastically in the months of November and December. Baker said the cost to repair damages in November was \$262.00, and the cost decreased to \$188.94 in December."

Primarily the types of vandalism taking place in the residence halls are discharging fire extinguishers and breaking fire boxes, Baker said. "Every time a fire extinguisher is discharged, it costs money to recharge it."

"Many times the incidents are minor and do not require much to fix," he said. "But all of the minor ones start to add up."

The best way to help prevent vandalism is for resident advisors to talk to students and make them aware that the money we use to pay for the vandalism should be used for things the dormitories need," Baker said.

"Other than the month of October, costs have been down," Baker said.

Student open invitation:

Center welcomes

by DEBRA LUCAS
reporter

A counselor from the Welcome Center on Fifth Avenue said she would like to see more students make use of the new building.

Valerie A. Morehouse, admissions counselor, explained that while the center is primarily for visitors, services are available to students already enrolled.

She said the greatest convenience the center offers students is easy access.

"Students can pull off the side of the road just to pick up materials," she said. "It is so much easier than trying to find a space near Old Main."

"The walk-in traffic has not been as great as we had hoped," she said. Morehouse explained the center offers information on colleges and academic areas for those interested in changing their major.

Student schedules are also available, she said. "We want students to be able to come here. If they need any brochures or information and they are on this side of campus, we invite them to stop here."

Access will become even easier for students once the building starts to stay open 24



Rick Hays/University relations

hours, she said. "It is difficult for some students to get over here during the day," she said.

Because the building was designed with open office spaces, there will have to be some security measures taken before the building will start staying open all night, she said.

Morehouse said because the Department of Public Safety shares the building, employees will be able to watch the area at night. A window allows safety workers to see into the Welcome Center, she said.

Faculty members also may take advantage of the center by displaying information from

their discipline, she said. Dennis Lebec, instructor of journalism and mass communications, provided the center with a video highlighting broadcast journalism as a major, she said.

"If a student shows interest in that major, we have a video on hand that explains it," she said.

Morehouse said formal campus tours are offered for visitors every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1 p.m. She said a new tour is offered one Saturday of each month and reaction has been favorable from students and parents.

Employee of the month is praised

Marshall University's Employee of the Month for January was Sharlee C. Henry of Huntington, program assistant in the John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence.

"It was unexpected but also very nice," Henry said. "Most people take their jobs for granted and when you are appreciated it makes you feel good."

Henry was nominated for the award by Martha C. Woodward, executive director of the Center for Academic Excellence. Woodward praised Henry.

"Sharlee Henry is the Mother Superior, confessor, miracle worker and all-around spark plug of the John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence," Woodward said.



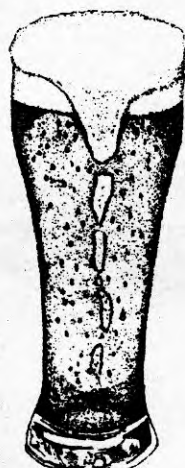
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Black History Month celebration continues

BY AUDRA JEYARAJ
reporter

The remainder of Black History Month will include highlights such as music, poem recitals and a movie.

There will be a slide and oral presentation entitled "Celebrating Black History from Past to Present" today at 7:30 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall Auditorium.

It will feature excerpts from Martin Luther King Jr., Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman, Kenneth E. Blue, associate vice president for multicultural affairs, said. "The slide presentations will deal with individuals in the history of African-American life who have made significant contributions and accomplishments in America."

The program will also feature musical performances by students and faculty members from the Department of Music.

Baruch J. Whitehead, director of bands, said, "We don't get to hear a lot of music by black composers. This program will expose the audience to their music."

"Music is an avenue that everyone can relate to and it is one of the mediums that has broken down many barriers."

Whitehead said some of the pieces featured at the program are by composers such as Scott Joplin and William Grant Still. In

addition, a selection from 'Porgy and Bess' by George Gershwin and music by Charles Johnson, a professional musician from Huntington, will be heard.

Whitehead said, "The slide presentations will force us to look at our past and learn from those mistakes and look to the future."

"We have made many strides in terms of racial equality and I'm excited that we can come together and remember and make plans to move ahead."

Other Black History Month activities are scheduled for next week. The movie "Malcolm X" will be featured Feb. 19 at 9 p.m. in 2W22 Memorial Student Center.

A choreopoem entitled "Womyn with Wings" will be performed Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

Blue said, "The choreopoem is expressing oneself through songs, acting and poem recitals. It will be about the triumph of womanhood and the examination of the roles that women play," he said. Blue added that performers will be professional actors from Columbus, Ohio.

More information may be obtained by calling 696-6705 or stopping at room 1W25 Memorial Student Center.

Wilcox to leave university

by DEBRA LUCAS
reporter

A Marshall administrator has been chosen to head West Virginia's efforts to expand the role of technology in higher education.

Dr. Lyle C. Wilcox will take leave from his job as senior vice president and provost to serve as vice chancellor for instructional technology at a salary of \$125,000, a position created in the 1995 higher education re-

form legislation, according to an announcement from the governor's office.

President J. Wade Gilley has not yet appointed a replacement to serve as senior vice president while Wilcox is on leave, C.T. Mitchell, director of university relations, said.

Wilcox will be responsible for developing a plan and funding recommendations for using instructional technology in higher education.

PIPE

from page one

supplies, we lost only a small amount of paper," Shirley Dyer, director of printing services, said. "Luckily the rest of our supplies were still in the old supply room."

Other damaged items included the new carpet, new ceiling tiles and two upholstered chairs.

Mead said she is thankful the front office was the only one damaged.

SGA

from page one

workers attended last semester's training sessions," Wickham said.

"That's why we had the voting problems in Twin Towers West. I'm sick and tired of getting slammed for this. The Parthenon dragged us through the mud over these elections," he said.

Senators also passed a bill recommending WMUL be the only radio station played in cafeterias on campus. College

of Science Senator Kareem Shora said, "The Parthenon is the only paper provided free on campus. WMUL should receive coverage as well."

Funds also were allocated to the softball team to help pay for Southern Conference championship rings.

The softball team won the conference title last season, and according to Carrie Hinkle, junior first baseman, the team was promised rings but never received them.

Hinkle said other teams have clubs to help raise money, but the softball program is still new

and does not have one.

She said team members have raised \$3,000 on their own, and the \$300 from the SGA will cover the remaining amount needed.

"Three hundred dollars is a lot of money," Hinkle said. "We really appreciate the SGA helping us out with our funds."

President Davis also discussed senate and student perceptions of the SGA as a governing body. "I don't think people hate the Student Government. I've never heard anyone say they hate the Student Government," he said.

Marshall University
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classifieds

Miscellaneous

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This course will last 5 Saturdays beginning March 2

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: Community College Room 135

Pre-Registration Required!

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The women's team will get back in to action Saturday, against Western Carolina in Cullowhee, N.C. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. The Herd is on a five game winning streak.



page edited by Chris Johnson

the parthenon **7** thursday, feb. 15, 1996

Herd gets revenge with blowout win against Appy

by MIKE TAYLOR
staff writer

This time the sequel was better than the original.

Appalachian State beat Marshall 89-87 Jan. 13, which gave the Herd its first conference loss of the season. The loss left a bad taste in the Herd's collective mouths.

"Guys felt embarrassed from watching the film from the first game [with ASU]," Herd forward John Brannen said.

This time, the Herd was anything but embarrassed as they pressed their way to a 95-64 win over the Mountaineers.

"For us, the game got decided in the first few minutes," Mountaineer coach Tom Apke said.

For the first time this season, the Herd has won three straight and the reason, according to Herd coach Billy Donovan, is obvious.

"We did a lot of spectacular things by the way we passed the ball," Donovan said. "We've become very difficult to stop when we pass the ball."

"I don't want to say it's become a habit [unselfish play] because it might jinx us," Herd point guard Jason Williams said.

Appy State had a 5-2 lead at the beginning of the game, but a bucket by Frank Lee and a three-pointer by Williams put the Herd back up 7-5 at the 17:47 mark.

That's when the Herd's press kicked in. The Mountaineers

committed three straight turnovers which resulted in a Brannen layup and a Lee layup to put the Herd up 11-5.

"We're not a real confident bunch when we get behind early," Apke said.

"We wanted to attack. The problem was they [MU] mixed up their defenses," Apke said.

The Herd's Keith Veney broke a second Marshall record in two games. Monday, Veney broke John Taft's record for three-pointers made in a season. Last night, Veney broke the record for three-pointers attempted in a season with 199. The old record was 197 which was also set by Taft.

"He took some great shots tonight," Donovan said. Brannen's three-pointer with

2:52 left gave the Herd a 25-point lead, which was its biggest of the first half. The Herd went into the locker room at half with a 51-32 lead. Brannen led all scorers at the half with 11 points. Williams was next with nine.

"Their defense was good at times, but our ball movement makes it hard on anyone," Brannen said.

The Herd upped the score to 59-37 when Sidney Coles passed the ball back between his legs back to Lee who then gave the ball back to Coles who layed the ball in and got fouled by Appy's Clint Crosston.

Chad Barry's jump shot with :47 seconds left gave the Herd a 33-point lead which was the team's biggest lead of the night.

"I think we're learning how to keep leads," Brannen said.

Besides Brannen's 23 points, Veney had 17 on four of six shooting from three-point land; Refiloe Lethunya came off the bench to score 15 points and Williams finished with 11 points. Kareem Livingston led the Mountaineers with 14 points. Three other players had 10 points.

Saturday, second place in the North Division of the conference is on the line as the Herd goes on the road to play Virginia Military Institute. The game has big implications for Southern Conference tournament seedings in two weeks.

"I think if you're gonna snowball or peak, this is the time to do it," Williams said.

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Hockey club adds games

by MEGAN DANIELS
reporter

The Marshall Hockey Club will be able to show its skills on the ice for the next three weeks as a busy schedule heads its way.

The hockey club has added six games to its schedule. The first game is Friday at the Tri-State Ice Arena located on fifth avenue. It is the first of a two game series against Eastern Kentucky University. The sec-

ond game will be played Saturday. Both games will start at midnight in conjunction with the club's midnight madness promotion.

The team is trying to recover from a loss to Xavier which left them with a record of 3-4.

"We have a pretty good team," Richard A. Greenwell, Huntington sophomore, said. "The first year takes a little time to get use to the way each of us plays, but we have adjusted really well."

The hockey club will play another first-year team Feb. 23 and 24. Kenyon College of Gambier, Ohio will try to give Marshall a run on the ice in Columbus. The team will then travel to the University of Louisville where it will play March 1 and 2.

"We have a large group of guys who come out and play for us," Jason M. Roland, Huntington sophomore, said. "28 guys come to practice and want to play, 16 dress for games. We have the participation, we just need the recognition from the university."

The club is trying to add at least four more home games to its schedule.

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MCAT TEST PREP

The Marshall University Division of Continuing Education is pleased to offer a test prep course for students who plan to take the MCAT (Medical College Admission Test)

This course will last 5 Saturdays beginning
March 2

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Community College Room 136
Pre-Registration is Required!

For more information call 304-696-3113 M-F 8-4:30 or
in person Community & Technical College Room 108

Student Survey

100 Marshall students were surveyed and they stated that 54.7% of Marshall students went out to drink on Thursday night. They also stated that 37% of Marshall students got drunk Thursday night. When asked about themselves 84% stated they didn't go out to drink Thursday night and 94% said they didn't get drunk.

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Nifty, but THRIFTY

Like those who think someone else's loss is another's gain, there are those who think someone else's junk is another's treasure, and thrift stores are cashing in on the philosophy.

With a quick glance through the phone book, one can find about 10 thrift or consignment stores in the Huntington area. These stores carry a wide array of previously owned items from clothing and shoes to Halloween costumes and frying pans.

"If you can think of it, chances are you'll find it in a thrift store," Laura E. Johnson, Huntington senior and frequent thrift store shopper, said. For her, thrift shopping has become a well-developed art form.

"I've shopped at thrift stores my whole life," Johnson said. "All of my family shops at them."

Johnson said the reason she visits the shops is because she doesn't have money to buy expensive clothes. It does not bother her that the clothes are used.

"Sometimes I might need to fix a button or zipper, but I don't mind," she said.

Johnson has purchased dresses, blazer jackets, shirts, jeans and Halloween costumes at thrift stores. She said the only drawbacks to this type of shopping are "the limited selections and not being able to find your size."

A typical thrift store is usually filled with racks, tables or boxes of clothing, shelves of household items, and some even have rooms full of used furniture.

Johnson said the "seasoned" thrift shopper knows how to wade through all the stuff and find just what they are looking for.

Amy N. Lynch, Moundsville sophomore, takes a different approach. "Most people who go to thrift stores are not looking for anything in particular — just something nice that someone threw away, or something that no one else has, like a gas shirt with the name 'Bob' sewn on it," she said.

Lynch, who has been a thrift shopper since junior high school, said thrift stores are like indoor yard sales with "lots of little treasures" just waiting to be discovered. However, she does see some problems with these kinds of stores.

Local thrift shops could be the answer to your spring clothing wardrobe, particularly if your budget is tight.



WHICH ONE IS THRIFTY?

One of these shirts cost \$2.50 at a thrift shop and the other \$60. Can you guess which one? (See answer at right.)

"People should remember that thrift stores were set up for the needy," Lynch said. "Lots of people go and buy these clothes and take them away from people who could really use them. If you buy from thrift stores, you also need to give back."

Many thrift stores, like Goodwill on 5th Avenue, have been serving the community for nearly 20 years, and all have specific methods of acquiring their items. Some by consignment, where a person brings items in and when they are sold, keeps half the profit, or others strictly by donation.

"Goodwill is a chain found throughout the U.S.," employee Beverly C. Sweeney said. "We get all our items by donation, and they are priced according to condition."

Sweeney said store policy was not to accept clothing with rips or stains or garments that were "really outdated."

"Our best sellers are jeans and sweaters," Sweeney said. "Jeans are usually about \$3, but our prices run anywhere from 25 cents on up."

Shoppers and store owners said value is definitely the main reason

people shop at thrift stores.

"I got my absolute favorite chair at a thrift store for seven dollars," Heather A. Elliott, Parkersburg sophomore, said.

Elliott said her chair had wooden arms and legs and was made of plush green velvet. "It was old, but there was nothing wrong with it — no rips or holes or anything," she said.

There are several stores, including the Resale Attic on 5th Avenue, Gallaher Village Consignment Shop on Norway Avenue, and Treasure Chest in Barboursville, located within a short walk or drive of the Marshall campus, so convenience is also a big factor.

All store owners said there was no typical customer. "Most of the shoppers are middle class females, but we get people of all ages, males and females," Judy A. Aycock, Gallaher's employee, said. "We get lots of secretaries, nurses, people from the board of education — they're just trying to make ends meet."

There are reasons besides value that people, especially students, choose to shop at thrift stores rather than the mall or other retail stores. Store owners themselves are not just in the business to make money.

"Clothing that's in style now is anything comfortable, worn-in or alternative looking, like tight turtle necks, baggy jeans or retro shoes," Christina L. McClure, Wheelersburg, junior, said. "You can definitely find that stuff at thrift stores."

B. Fern Hager, an employee of nine years at the Resale Attic, works at the shop as a hobby. "I've met so many nice people," she said. "They come into the shop and stay and talk for hours sometimes. I just enjoy being here."

Story by
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Photos by
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